

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /134 W
----- 024032

R 290730Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5990

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETWON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USUN NEW YORK 552

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 2546

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SF, WA

SUBJECT: REPORTED KILLINGS IN NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 163176

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE (KENYA DAILY NATION CARRIED SIMILAR REPORT JULY 26) WITH JESAYA NYAMU, SWAPO DEPUTY CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE FOR EAST AFRICA, ON JULY 27, HE CONFIRMED THAT SWEDISH JOURNALISTS PER SANDEN AND RUDI SPEE MADE VISIT UNDER SWAPO AUSPICES TO CAPRIVI STRIP MONTH OR TWO AGO. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT MEET GROUP, HE THOUGHT THEY WERE IN CAPRIVI STRIP FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS. NYAMU SHOWED EMBOFF BLOWN-UP PHOTOS THEY HAD MADE OF ALLEGED MASSACRE.

2. NYAMU'S ACCOUNT OF INCIDENT VARIES SOMEWHAT FROM THAT BEING REPORTED BY SWEDISH JOURNALISTS. NYAMU, WHO WAS UNABLE TO
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RECALL NAME OF VILLAGE IN EAST CAPRIVI WHERE KILLINGS ALLEGEDLY

TOOK PLACE, SAID NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE KILLED. HE COMMENTED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN PLANES AND HELICOPTERS ATTACKED VILLAGE, USING BOMBS AND STRAFING. ALL 400-500 PERSONS IN VILLAGE FLED OR WERE KILLED. IT IS NOW KNOWN TO THIS DAY WHERE SOME OF SURVIVORS ARE LOCATED. SOME FLED TO ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA, WHERE OTHERS SCATTERED IN NAMIBIA. NYAMU SAID SOUTH AFRICANS ATTACKED VILLAGE BECAUSE SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER SWAPO PERSONNEL HAD BEEN GIVEN FOOD AND WATER BY VILLAGE CHIEF.

3. NYAMU, WHO PERSONALLY TALKED ON SEPARATE OCCASION WITH ONE OF SAME SURVIVORS INTERVIEWED BY SWEDISH JOURNALISTS, WAS QUITE CERTAIN INCIDENT DID NOT TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER 1973 AS REPORTED BY SWEDES. NYAMU BELIEVES IT HAPPENED IN APRIL OR MAY 1974. SINCE NYAMU SAID HE TALKED WITH SURVIVOR IN JULY 1973, KILLINGS COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN SEPTEMBER.

4. COMMENT: NYAMU SAID HE WOULD OBTAIN MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION FROM SWAPO HQ IN LUSAKA AND PASS IT TO EMBOFF. IF NYAMU OBTAINS MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT AND IT DOES NOT DUPLICATE INFORMATION FROM EMBASSY LUSAKA, WE WILL FORWARD IT TO DEPARTMENT.
BEYER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MURDER, COMBAT OPERATIONS, JOURNALISTS
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Draft Date: 29 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Review Event:
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINS, SF, WA, SW, SWAPO, (NYAMU, JESAYA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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